

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 BIB-01
/079 W
-----069392 101924Z /72

R 101040Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5355
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USCINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, JO, LY
SUBJECT: JORDAN PM CONCLUDES VISIT TO LIBYA

BEGIN SUMMARY: JORDANIAN PM MUDHAR BADRAN DEPARTED BENGHAZI
APRIL 6 FOLLOWING SHORT THREE DAY VISIT TO LIBYA. ALTHOUGH
BADRAN REPORTEDLY MET WITH QADHAFI ONLY ONCE, JOINT PRESS
COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT UPBEAT IN TONE AND
STRESSED GROWING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. TWO
AGREEMENTS SIGNED AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT. HOWEVER, THERE HAS
BEEN NO RPT NO INDICATION WHETHER LIBYA AGREED TO RENEW ANNUAL
SUBSIDIES TO JORDAN SUSPENDED IN 1970 OR TO CONTRIBUTE ANY
NEW LARGE-SCALE AID. PROMINENCE ACCORDED BY LOCAL MEDIA TO
OFFICIAL HOST PEOPLE'S GENERAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ABDUL
ATI AL-UBAYDI OF SOME INTEREST SINCE LATTER HAS REMAINED
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LARGELY IN BACKGROUND SINCE HE WAS APPOINTED TO WHAT WAS
THOUGHT TO BE NON-JOB LAST YEAR. END SUMMARY.

1. AT INVITATION OF ABD AL-ATI AL-UBAYDI, CHAIRMAN OF LIBYAN
GENERAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, JORDANIAN PM MUDHAR BADRAN
VISITED BENGHAZI -- WHERE QADHAFI HAS BEEN ENSCONCED FOR
OVER A MONTH -- FOR THREE DAY VISIT APRIL 4-6. IN ADDITION

TO BADRAN, JORDANIAN DELEGATION INCLUDED HASSAN IBRAHIM, MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS; KHALID AL-MADAHAR, DIR OF PRIMIN'S OFFICE; FAYEZ JABIR, SEC OF ROYAL COMMITTEE FOR JERUSALEM; AND HAYTHAM JAMIL AL-QAWS, BADRAN'S INFORMATION ADVISOR. AMONG THOSE WELCOMING BADRAN AT BENGHAZI'S AIRPORT WERE AL-UBAYDI, FORSEC ABD AL-SALAM AL-TURAYKI, AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS SEC MUHAMMAD AL-FAYTURI.

2. MUCH OF BADRAN'S VISIT FOCUSED ON ROUTINE PROTOCOL VISITS TO LOCAL FACTORIES AND TOMB OF LIBYAN RESISTANCE HERO OMAR AL-MUQTAR. ALTHOUGH BADRAN CONSULTED WITH AL-UBAYDI AND AL-TURAYKI ON BOTH APRIL 4 AND APRIL 6, ONLY ONE TWO HOUR MEETING WITH QADHAFI ON APRIL 5 REPORTED BY LOCAL MEDIA DURING WHICH TIME BADRAN DELIVERED A LETTER FROM KING HUSAYN.

3. JOINT PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF BADRAN'S VISIT AFTERNOON OF APRIL 6 CONDEMNED ISRAELI "AGGRESSION" IN SOUTH LEBANON, REITERATED SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN "STRUGGLE" AND FOR ROLE OF PLO AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. PRESS COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT BOTH SIDES CALLED FOR THE POOLING OF ARAB RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL FOR THE "BATTLE OF LIBERATION." LIBYAN PRESS RELEASE USED STRONGER AND MORE EMOTIVE PHRASES THAN AMMAN VERSION.

4. TURNING TO BILATERAL ISSUES, PRESS COMMUNIQUE REPORTED THAT LIBYA AND JORDAN AGREED TO FURTHER EXPAND FIELDS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COOPERATION, AND TO THIS END, TWO AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED. A GENERAL AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC FIELDS WAS OFFICIALLY DESCRIBED AS AIMING QUOTE AT THE CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELDS OF CONSTRUCTION, AGRICULTURE, AGRARIAN REFORM, AND MANPOWER AND THE EXCHANGE OF TEACHERS AND PROFESSORS IN THE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL FIELDS UNQUOTE.

5. A GENERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT WAS ALSO SIGNED PROVIDING FOR EXCHANGE VISITS BY STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PROFESSORS, TRAINEES AND SPORTS DELEGATIONS IN ADDITION TO FURTHER COOPERATION BETWEEN JORDAN AND LIBYA IN THE FIELDS OF RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING AND TRANSLATION AND PUBLISHING.

6. THE PRESS COMMUNIQUE ALSO ADDED THAT INVITATIONS HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO BOTH AL-UBAYDI AND AL-TURAYKI TO VISIT JORDAN. THE INVITATIONS WERE ACCEPTED FOR A DATE TO BE AGREED UPON LATER.

7. BEGIN COMMENT. THERE HAS THUS FAR BEEN NO RPT NO INDICATION OF WHAT -- IF ANY -- FINANCIAL OR MILITARY

AID LIBYA MAY HAVE PROMISED TO EXTEND TO JORDAN, BUT LIBYA'S APPRECIATION FOR JORDAN'S "STEADFASTNESS" AND FOR ITS "BEARING OF ITS PAN-ARAB RESPONSIBILITIES" AS NOTED IN PRESS COMMUNIQUE COULD BE HARBINGER OF SOME FORTHCOMING ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF LIBYA'S PRESENT DISENCHANTMENT WITH SYRIA. OF COLLATERAL INTEREST WAS PROMINENCE GIVEN TO OFFICIAL HOST LIBYAN "PRIME MINISTER" AL-UBAYDI DURING VISIT. AL-UBAYDI HAS NORMALLY BEEN ACCORDED VERY LITTLE PRESS OR RADIO COVERAGE SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT LAST YEAR BY THE GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS AT SEBHA. HIS EMERGENCE MAY REFLECT QADHAFI'S NEED FOR HIGH-LEVEL HELP SINCE THE LOSS OF CHIEF AID BEN AMIR IN HELICOPTER CRASH EARLY MARCH. END COMMENT. CARLE

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